Times-Virginian
IN THE HEART OF VIRGINIA'S DARK TOBACCO BELT
Appomattox, Va.

ESTABLISHED IN 1892

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Editorial Comment

APPOMATTOX.

GROWTH OF JOURNALISM

(Note: The following was the top Editorial in the January 21st issue of The Publisher's Auxiliary, a very prominent publication in the newspaper trade.)

From Fort Sumter to Appomattox was one of the longest and most bitter episodes in American history. So vast and terrifying was the Civil War that it has maintained an impact upon many American minds that is unequalled by any other event. The beginning of a Centennial of events to be staged commemorating the war has been protested by a few who feel the event was of suitable horror to be best forgotten.

The Civil War is of a special significance to journalists as it has been said to be the first war that was fully covered by the press with correspondents in the fields of battle, and the first war to have been photographed. There was also the first use of telegraphy for war news. Newspapers dealt heavily in events during the tumultuous days preceding the firing on Fort Sumter and they spoke with mixed emotions all through the war years. While the Baltimore Sun, and the New York Herald, for instance, had definite editorial sympathies with the South, papers like the Knoxville (Tenn.) Whig and the Richmond (Va.) Whig favored Union causes. Following the movement of the Confederate government to Richmond, the Richmond Examiner called for the capture of Washington, where Lincoln "the beast and Illinois ape lived."

Perhaps one of the most influencial newspaper figures to be connected with the Civil War was Horace Greeley, outspoken publisher of the New York Herald Tribune who haunted Southern plantation owners by supporting the protective tarif and governmental subsidies for internal improvements — and violently was opposed to the ownership of slaves. After the war, however, he was criticized for being too conciliatory to the South and it was he who signed the bail bond for Jefferson Davis. James Gordon Bennett, who favored the South, and slavery, in his New York Herald, at the offset called Greeley a "monster who instigated this dreadful war." After Ft. Sumter, Bennett switched his field and supported the Union. Among all the newsmen he had the greatest foresight which enabled his sixty "well - equipped" correspondents to "give by far the best news coverage of the conflict. The Herald was said to have spent $520,000 in covering the war. Up until the battle started, many Southern newspapers supported abolition and some Northern papers advocated slavery.

When Atlanta smouldered in a sea of flames and a rainstorm of sparks, newspapermen were recording history and endangering their lives as no other journalists had done before. Walt Whitman, America's great journalist-poet, wept at a mountain of amputated limbs at a camp in Pennsylvania and his words have not been forgotten.

Thanks to these journalists, many persons who have made an intensive stddy of the Civil War as a hobby, and even as a profession - have been able to study the interior developments, moments of chaos, and acts of heroism, more than in any previous war. Because of its romantic and historical value to Americans these studies have made the Civil War possibly the most studied and publicized war in history. Books about the war have been plentiful and publishers have supplies to be published during the 1961-1965 war centennial years, announced an abundance of new

Newspapers, as they participated in the dreadful days during the Civil War, will participate now in the coverage of the commemorative events to be staged. A sort of scoop has been claimed by the Atlanta Journal and Constitution with publication of a series of full page reproduction of pages printed by the Atlanta Century during the war days. Mats of these pages were offered free to other papers. Atlanta, a news center during the war, has already taken a news leadership in the centennial.

Centennial ceremonies should evoke more than memories of stately Mississippi plantations in flames or a blue field of dead warriors at Gettysburg. The years only added to the strength and maturity of a united democracy. Americans of both sides are justly proud of the indescribable acts of bravery that have been recorded, and most all, the ability of an even braver and manful coalition after the conclusion of battle.

American jouralism can be proud that theirs was the choice to write the most important chapter in the history of war correspondence.

(Editor's note: We salute The Publisher's Auxiliary for this above Editorial, and we hope it will inspire modern journalists to follow in the footsteps of these Civil War ancestors, during the approaching Centennial Years, 1961-65 in a true challenge to all Americans, not just to salute, but to emulate their forebears.)

Those who violate the law should not object to the penalty.

Facts are not always the easiest things in the world to face

Courage justifies the survival of a people, a nation or an individual.

FEBRUARY

The trees stand wistful in the Square,
Wearing a half-expectant air;
The sky is a slender silver bell
That waits to sound the knell
Of winter.

Anne Mary Lawler.

The name "February" comes from the Latin verb, "Februare," which means purify. The Romans formerly held a festival at which a goat was sacrificed, after which the priest struck the hands of women with a strip of the skin of a goat, which was supposed to insure fertility and a safe delivery.

In United States history, February is a notable as a month of birthday anniversaries. The foremost birthday anniversary is that of George Washington, the founder of the country, whose reputation has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years. It is also the month in which the birthday anniversary of Abraham Lincoln falls. Washington's birthday comes on February 22nd and Lincoln's on February 12.

Other birthdays of interest include those of Charles Dickens, who was born February 7th, 1812, at Landport, England. The anniversary of the chartering of the Boy Scouts of America falls on February 8th. The chartering took place on February 8th, 1910.

The birthday anniversary of William Henry Harrison, ninth President of the United States, comes on February 9th. He was born in 1773.

An often - forgotten anniversary is that of the Spanish Peace Treaty, the signing of which, by the President, occured on February 10 th, 1899. By the treaty Spain ceded to the United States the Philippine Islands, and the island of Guam in the Pacific, and the island of Puerto Rico, in the Atlantic. In consideration of payment of $20,000,000. Spain also agreed to withdraw from Cuba.

St. Valentine's Day falls on February 14. Jefferson Davis was inaugurated as President of the Confederacy on February 18th, 1861. The Washington Monument was dedicated on February 21, 1885.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, one of the most popular American poets, of the nineteenth century, was born February 27, 1807, in Portland, Maine.

ON INFLUENCING CHILDREN

With the current alarm over the increase in delinquency among the young people today, parents are naturally concerned about their own youngsters and they often wonder whether certain activities of their young sons and daughters are exactly the wise thing for them.

The anxiety of mothers and fathers about the conduct of their children is understandable. Naturally they are sincerely concerned. They want nothing more than that their boys and girls grow into fine men and women.

There is a way in which parents can influence the conduct of their children. This is not in denouncing their customs of punishing the young people. After all, growing boys and girls require some amusement and social life, and it is natural for them to want to congregate together.

Therefore, if parents dislike certain current activities, it is up to them to provide other forms of recreation which are more desirable. It is an accepted fact that young people must be kept busy doing the right things or they are likely to get into trouble.

Before all of us complain about what the youngsters are doing, it behooves us to bestir ourselves and see what we are doing for the boys and girls.

NO TIME TO WORK

Some time ago, an item was published in The Chicago Times, and it explains the average person spends life.

To begin with, he spends third of his life asleep. He another four years talking people, but women spend five in conversation with others.

A man, it is estimated, spends about five months of his trying to tie his shoe laces, years washing and shaving, and up to four years in eating up to a quarter of a tobacco.

Telephone calls require one of the average life span, and six months are spent playing. For some of the fair readers, would raise this to about six

Six years are spent eating, drinking, and three years spending sick. For the average about five years are spent at to and from work, and this is likely to go up as more of the cities and as the cities larger and larger.

The main point in all this lating is that, after we spend these years doing these things little is left for work. The assumed, in all the above pursuits preaches fifty years, and, fore, probably less than years are left for working, which is considered there are many time-consumers not included above.

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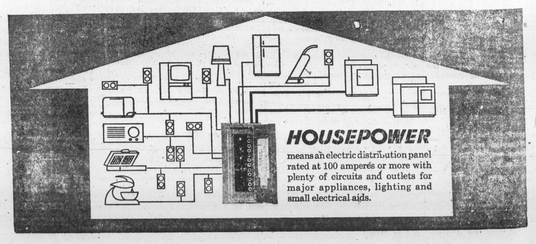

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Question Of The Week

(Editor's Note: Here are some questions asked by Virginia farmers during the past week, as reported by county agricultural agents. Staff members of the Agricultural Extension Service and of Experiment Station at Virginia Polytechnic Institute supply the answers).

Q. What is a good medium maturity corn variety to plant?

A. Check the list of recommended corn varieties for Virginia, available from county agents, to see what varieties are recommended for your area. The recommendations are different sections of the state.

Q. Can I use 10-10-10 fertilizer as a top-dressing for small grain, rather than cal nitrate or nitrate of soda?

A. Generally, you should apply the complete fertilizer at seeding time in the fall when it can be worked into the seedbed, then use nitrogen for top-dressing. However, if you are seeding legumes or legume-grass mixtures in the small grain, and only small amounts of fertilizer were applied last fall, you can go ahead and use the complete fertilizer at top - dressing time.

Q. How much chickweed has to be present in alfalfa for spraying to pay?

A. This is a hard question to answer. Chickweed is a cool weather "crop" and if cool weather continues through into spring, chickweed can become extremely troublesome. However, no one can predict the weather for the season, so the best rule to follow is to spray if there is a fairly heavy infestation which could retard the alfalfa in the spring or contaminate the first cutting.

Q. What restrictions, if any, will apply to spraying for alfalfa weevil control where fall seedings were not treated with heptachlor?

A. Heptachlor is not approved for use on alfalfa in the spring. You will have to resort to either malathion or methoxychlor.

Q. Is is too late to treat plant beds for weed control?

A. Earlier fall treatments are recommended in Virginia. However, you can treat now if the soil temperature is around 40 degrees, and if you want until the effects of the chemical wear off before planting the bed.

Q. What should I use to control scale on various shrubs and plants?

A. Wait until early spring and apply a malathion spray.

Q. Can you detect antibiotics other than penicillin in milk?

A. Indeed, yes!

Q. During what season of the year is it best to deborn cattle?

A. You can deborn at any season, preferably when the animals are young.

Q. When should I seed red clover and lespedeza on small grain? How much, if any, cover should the seed have?

A. Seed any time from now until mid-March. Cover the seed lightly by disking or harrowing.

VETERANS FEB. CHECKS

Veterans or their dependents drawing pensions from the Veterans Administration may not get their February check. Pensions are not to be confused with compensation. Pensions are paid to veterans who are totally disabled because of non - service - connected disabilities and to widows of veterans who died as a result of disabilities not related to their service.

Those drawing compensation are not required to file the income questionnaire. Carlton W. Bragg, Officer-in-Charge of the Lynchburg VA Office said today than an income questionnaire was mailed to each veteran or dependent with the December check. Those and widows placed on the roll subsequent to October 20, 1960, are not required to file income questionnaires this year and did not receive the questionnaire form.

Bragg said that 30% of those who have already returned the questionnaire did not complete it in detail — necessitating their return. He said that if the questionnaires are not completed in detail and returned to the VA Office early in February, the pension checks will be suspended to those not completing the forms.

"The forms have to be completed in detail in accordance with instructions," he said

If clarification is needed, he said, the person should visit the VA Office, located in Room 317 of the Post Office Building, in Lynchburg.

Auto sales fell in the first third of month.

Stonewall

Stonewall, January 30. I sure hope all the ground hogs will stay inside on Feb. 2nd so we can have some real pretty weather for we are really having some cold bad weather.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wheeler and family of Richmond spent the week end here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irby Wheeler.

Sorry to hear of Mr. Kelly Stratton's accident last week. He had one of his fingers sawed so bad he had to go to the Doctor to get it fixed up. I do hope he will soon be feeling lots better.

We still have right much sickness around here, hope for them all a speedy get well.

We want to wish Mr. Jack Caldwell, Jr. a very happy birthday tomorrow, January 31st. He is still on our sick list, being treated in Lynchburg by a Doctor. We hope for him a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Henry Beard and Lawrence visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick on Sunday, also Mrs. J. L. Beard and boys.

We want to extend deepest sympathy to the loved ones of Mrs. Lena Stratton, who passed on to her reward last week. She lived here among us all for a long time.

Most all of the farmers are finishing up selling tobacco this week and will soon be starting on another crop soon as weather permits.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Thomas had all their children and families with them last week-end.

Washington Notes

Cuban Travel Curb

Word comes from the State Department that United States citizens desiring to travel to Cuba must, until further notice, obtain passports "specifically endorsed by the Department of State for such travel."

This action was made necessary following the break in diplomatic relations with Cuba. The United States would be unable to extend normal protective service to Americans visiting Cuba.

Urged To Desalt Water

Dr. Arthur L. Miller, Director of the Federal Office of Saline Water, said that America's rising population would force more than 1,000 cities to convert salt and brackish water for drinking purposes within the next ten years.

Conversion costs at a large scale plant would be about 40 cents per 1,000 gallons. It would make the price of fresh water converted from the sea competitive with the price "many communities will have to pay for natural fresh water."

Weakness and War

Former President Eisenhower said he considers the greatest achievement of his eight years in office was the preservation of peace in an era when weakness would almost certainly have brought disastrous war.

His great disappointment, Eisenhower said, was that the nation could not be brought to the place where it could be said that peace with justice was in sight.

Unemployment Up

Unemployment rose by about 500,000 in December to a total of around 4,500,000.

The increase in unemployment and an expected decline in employment were worse than what was seasonably expectable.

Usually, in December, job contraction is due to wintertime reduction in outdoor work. This December, however, was reported to have been aggravated by a further loss of jobs in the nation's factories, which normally should be busy.

Mules Vanishing

Memphis.- The last mule barn in Memphis — once the world's largest mule market — is being converted to the cattle trade.

Things used to be different. In 1943, the Memphis market was handling 10,000 mules a month. A few days ago there were only six mules at the big barn, and half of them were "canners" — destined for a dog food plant.

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